

Appl. No. 09/758,263
Amdt. dated October 16, 2003
Reply to Office Action of June 16, 2003

REMARKS

In the June 16, 2003 Office Action, of pending claims 1-25, claims 17-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious and claims 1-16 and 23-25 are rejected under nonstatutory double patenting. Furthermore, in the September 17, 2003 Advisory Action, the Examiner suggests that the previous amendment to claim 17 is possibly indefinite.

By this Amendment, claim 17 is amended, leaving claims 1-25 pending with claims 1, 13, 17 and 23 being independent.

Reconsideration and allowance of the above-identified application are respectfully requested.

Claim 17

Claim 17 is amended to avoid any possible 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph rejection. Applicant submits that amended claim 17 is definite and independent claim 17 and its dependent claims 18-22 are allowable over the cited prior art for the reasons stated in the previous responses.

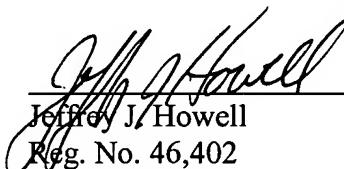
Furthermore, Applicant submits that claims 1-16 and 23-25 are allowable, since as noted in the previous response, a Terminal Disclaimer has been filed to overcome the outstanding double patenting rejection.

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In view of the above, it is believed that the above-identified application is in condition for allowance, and notice to that effect is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned at the local telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,



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